

Arizona Biomedical Research Commission

February 14, 2008

15 South 15th Avenue, Suite 103-A
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Members Present:

David Landrith, Chair
Colleen Brophy, M.D.
Barbara Wuebbels, R.N.
Lon Owen, Ph.D.
Greg Garcia, Esq.
Joan Shapiro, M.D., Ph.D.
David Jerman

Staff Present:

Dawn Schroeder, D.D.S.
James Matthews
Damika Brock

Absent:

Manuel Modiano

Assistant Attorney General:

Terry Corbett

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM by Chair Landrith. A quorum was present.

Commissioner Shapiro moved to adopt the minutes of December 13, 2007. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Executive Director Schroeder described the Arizona Non-embryonic Stem Cell Repository solicitation and response to the solicitation. Evaluation of the proposals is being delayed until a final determination is made by the Legislature concerning possible recapture of the funds appropriated to establish the repository.

Executive Director Schroeder updated the Commission on the status of the state budget roll back process. The two Commission dedicated funds are not appropriated by the Legislature and therefore not subject to roll back. However, the \$1,000,000 appropriated for the stem cell repository is eligible for capture. At this time the status of the funds is unknown.

Executive Director Schroeder updated the Commission on the activities of AzTransNet. A patient registry retreat is scheduled for June 4th. All Commissioners are invited to attend. Commissioner Wuebbels commented that private registry operators would be interested in attending the retreat. A person has been hired by Battelle to work half-time on AzTransNet activities. The Clinical and Translational Science Award reviews have been received by the state applicants. Arizona received an excellent score but just missed the funding cutoff. The Commission will continue to monitor the application process and determine if further Commission involvement is warranted.

The Edward Skibo and Joyce Schroeder research contracts need to be discussed. Commissioner Owen moved that the Commission go into Executive Session to receive contract information and legal advice. Commissioner Wuebbels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission returned to open session.

Commissioner Brophy moved that \$76,000 and an additional year be added to the Schroeder contract for the purpose of advancing the promising research. After one year Executive Director Schroeder will evaluate the viability of the project and report to the Commission. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Garcia moved to authorize expenditures for the filing of a provision patent on work resulting from the Schroeder project. Commissioner Wuebbels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Schroeder explained that the Skibo contract did not require any action by the Commission.

The Commission discussed the upcoming evaluation of responses to RFP08-100. Executive Director Schroeder discussed the peer reviewer deadline and the process to distributing reviews. Commissioners Shapiro and Brophy discussed the appropriate way to address conflicts of interest in reviewing proposals. Commissioners were cautioned to not review or discuss any proposals where they have a conflict. If there are questions about conflicts or how to handle them they should refer them to Commission staff.

Executive Director Schroeder updated the Commission on the Michael J. Fox review of the Arizona Parkinson Center project scheduled for March 9-10. Information from the review will help the Commission determine future support for the Center.

Executive Director Schroeder updated the Commission on the status of Commission appointments. There are five potential appointments with two vacancies and three reappointments.

Executive Director Schroeder informed the Commission of her upcoming knee replacement surgery. She anticipates being away from the office three to four weeks. In the interim Deputy Director Matthews will act on her behalf.

There was no other business.

Chair Landrith made a call to the public. There was no response.

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 AM.

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday February 14, 2008.

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James Matthews
Deputy Director